

REMARKS

Claims 1, 12 and 20 have been amended. Claims 4, 6, 10, 11, and 18 were previously canceled. Accordingly, claims 1 - 3, 5, 7 - 9, 12 - 17, and 19 - 29 are currently pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and reexamination in view of the following remarks.

The amendment to claims 1, 12 and 20 define the integration of the physical protection and information from the information asset protection module to grant rights to the information systems based on physical access or independently of physical access. The amendment further defines reflecting user status change being updated to reflect changes in security access requirements. Support is found in the original specification, *inter alia* at paragraphs [0022], [0028], [0057], and [0059].

In the Final Office Action, claims 1-3, 5, 7-9, 12-17 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,732,278 to Baird, III et al. (hereafter, *Baird*) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,720,861 to Rodenbeck et al. (hereafter, *Rodenbeck*); and claims 20-29 were further rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Baird* in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0104006 A1 to Boate et al. (hereafter, *Boate*) and in further view of *Rodenbeck*.

By this Response, the Examiner's rejections have been traversed.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

1. Rejection of claims 1-3, 5, 7-9, 12-17, and 19.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 5, 7-9, 12-17, and 19 as being unpatentable over *Baird* in view of *Rodenbeck*.

Response

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Independent claims 1 and 12 recite, *inter alia*:

"... integration of the processor based physical asset protection and processor based information asset protection to grant rights to the information systems based on physical access, or independently of physical access, ... [reflecting] user

status change updated to reflect changes in security access requirements... ."

(Method claim 1; apparatus claim 12 similar.)

Baird uses a security method wherein a user is granted access to an informational asset by authenticating the user through one or more of a user password, a biometric measure, and a computer-generated password. *Baird* does not suggest triggering a user status change upon valid entry or exit. *Baird* is unrelated to access through a door of a building. *Rodenbeck* describes triggering a user status change upon valid entry or exit through a door of a building, such that a user is granted access to a physical asset by a remote access control system (RACS) but this is completely independent of the information asset authentication of *Baird*.

The combination of *Baird* and *Rodenbeck* fails to suggest integrating processor based physical asset protection and processor based information asset protection to grant rights based on physical access, or independently of physical access, and reflecting user status change updated to reflect changes in security access requirements.

2. Rejection of claims 20-29

The Examiner rejected claims 20-29 as being unpatentable over *Baird* in view of *Boate* and *Rodenbeck*.

Response

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Boate is used to show authenticated digital signatures which are used for establishing secure access to data stored on a network and for performing secure transactions over a network. *Boate* fails to suggest triggering a user status change upon valid entry or exit through a physical user status change upon valid entry or exit through the door of a building.

The combination of *Baird*, *Boate*, and *Rodenbeck* therefore fail to suggest the feature of "... integration of processor based physical asset protection and processor based information asset protection to grant rights to the information systems based on physical access, or independently of physical access," and fail to suggest, "the information asset protection [reflecting] the user

status change updated to reflect changes in security access requirements." Both of these features are defined in claim 20.

Applicant further refers to the arguments presented in the Response to the Final Office Action filed October 5, 2005, in which the relevance of the *Baird*, *Rodenbeck* and *Boate* references to the present invention are fully discussed.

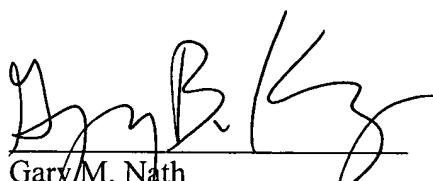
CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes the application is not in condition for allowance, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,
NATH & ASSOCIATES PLLC

January 16, 2006

NATH & ASSOCIATES PLLC
112 South West Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-2891
Tel: 703-548-6284
Fax: 703-683-8396



Gary M. Nath
Registration No. 26,965
Gregory B. Kang
Registration No. 45,273
Stanley N. Protigal
Registration No. 27,658
Customer No. 20529